

**Listing of Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 2-9 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

1. (Currently Amended) An ink jet ink composition comprising water, a humectant, and a hyperbranched polymeric dye comprising a hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore ~~pendant on the polymer chain~~ or incorporated into the polymer backbone.

2-9. CANCELED

10. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore incorporated into the backbone thereof is a polyamide, polyester, polyether, vinylic polymer, polyimine, polyesteramide or polyurethane.

11. (Currently Amended) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore incorporated into the polymer backbone is prepared by a chain polymerization of a monomer of the formula  $M^1-R^7-M^2_m$  wherein  $R^7$  is a linear or branched alkyl, carbonyl, or aromatic moiety containing a dye chromophore ~~and  $M^1$ ,  $M^2$  and  $m$  are defined as in Claim 4 ;  $M^1$  and  $M^2$  are reactive groups that react independently of each other in which  $M^1$  is a polymerization group and  $M^2$  is a precursor of a moiety  $M^{2*}$  which initiates the polymerization of  $M^1$  as a result of being activated; and  $m$  is an integer of at least 1.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore incorporated into the polymer backbone is prepared by a condensation or addition polymerization of a monomer of the formula  $M^3-R^7-M^4_p$  wherein  $R^7$  ~~is defined in Claim 11~~ and  $M^3$ ;

M<sup>4</sup> and p are defined as in Claim 5 is a linear or branched alkyl, carbonyl, or aromatic moiety containing a dye chromophore; M<sup>3</sup> and M<sup>4</sup> are groups that undergo a condensation or addition reaction; and p is an integer of at least 2.

13. (Currently Amended) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore incorporated into the polymer backbone is prepared by a condensation or addition polymerization of a monomer of the formula R<sup>8</sup>-M<sup>5</sup><sub>q</sub> and R<sup>9</sup>-M<sup>6</sup><sub>t</sub>, wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are each independently a linear or branched alkyl or aromatic moiety, at least one of which contains a dye chromophore, and M<sup>5</sup>, M<sup>6</sup>, q and t are defined as in Claim 6; M<sup>5</sup> and M<sup>6</sup> are groups that undergo a condensation or addition reaction; q is an integer of at least 2; and t an integer of at least 3.

14. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said dye chromophore is a mono- or poly-azo dye, basic dye, phthalocyanine dye, methine or polymethine dye, merocyanine dye, azamethine dye, quinophthalone dye, thiazine dye, oxazine dye, anthraquinone or metal-complex dye.

15. (Original) The composition of Claim 14 wherein said mono- or poly-azo dye is a pyrazolcazoindole.

16. (Original) The composition of Claim 14 wherein said metal-complex dye is a transition metal complex of an 8-heterocyclazo-5-hydroxyquinoline.

17. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said humectant is diethylene glycol, glycerol or diethylene glycol monobutylether.

18. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said hyperbranched polymeric dye comprises about 0.2 to about 20 % by weight of said ink jet ink composition.